

REMINDER

Drawing changes may also require changes in the specification, e.g., if Fig. 1 is changed to Fig. 1A, Fig. 1B, Fig. 1C, etc., the specification, at the Brief Description of the Drawings, must likewise be changed. Please make such changes by 37 CFR 1.332 Amendment at the time of submitting drawings.

INFORMATION ON HOW TO EFFECT DRAWING CHANGES

1. Correction of Drawings - 37 CFR 1.85

File new drawings with the changes incorporated thereon. Identifying initials, if provided, should include the title of the invention, inventor's name, and application number (or docket number (if any) if an application number has not been assigned to the application). If this information is provided, it must be placed on the front of each sheet and centered within the top margin. The new set should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Drawing Review Branch.

2. Timing for Corrections

Applicant is required to submit **acceptable** corrected drawings within the three (3) month shortened statutory period set in the Notice of Allowability (PTO/A-37).

Failure to take corrective action within set period will result in **ABANDONMENT** of the Application.

3. Corrections other than Defects Noted by the Drawing Review Branch on the Form PTO-918

All changes to the drawings, other than defects noted by the Drawing Review Branch, **MUST** be approved by the examiner before the application will be allowed. No changes will be permitted other than correction of defects, unless the examiner has approved the proposed changes.

NOTIFICATION OF REQUESTED NEW FORMAT FOR AMENDMENTS AND/OR RESPONSES FILED IN ART UNITS 1634, 2827, AND 2834

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is currently conducting a prototype of electronic application processing and examination in Art Units 1634, 2827, and 2834. To facilitate the prototype, the following changes in format for Amendments and or Responses filed in those Art Units are requested.

Requested Format of Amendments and Responses during the prototype.

Each section of an Amendment and/or Response (e.g., Claim Amendments, Specification Amendments, Remarks) should begin on a separate sheet to facilitate separate indexing and scanning of the document. *For example*, in an Amendment containing a.) introductory comments, b.) amendments to the claims, c.) amendments to the specification, and d.) remarks, each of these sections should begin on a separate sheet. **For each amendment filed in Art Units 1634, 2827, and 2834, the requirement to provide two sets of claims (a clean version and a marked up version), as set forth in 37 CFR 1.121(c), will be waived where the following format is employed.**

Each amendment that includes a change to an existing claim, or submission of a new claim shall be made by submitting a **summary document with the status of all claims and the text of all pending claims as follows:**

- (1) The status of all of the claims in the application, including any previously canceled or withdrawn claims, must be summarized in each amendment document. Status is indicated by a parenthetical expression following the claim number (e.g. (original), (currently amended), (previously amended), (canceled), (withdrawn), or (new)). The text of all pending claims must be submitted each time any claim is amended. Canceled and withdrawn claims may be indicated by only the claim number and status.
- (2) All claims being currently amended must be submitted with markings to indicate the changes that have been made. The changes in any amended claim may be shown by strikethrough (for deleted matter) or underlining (for added matter), or by any equivalent marking system.
- (3) The text of pending claims not being amended must be presented in each amendment document in clean version, i.e., without any markings. Any claim presented in clean version will constitute an assertion that it has not been changed relative to the immediate prior version.
- (4) A claim may be canceled by merely providing an instruction to cancel. Any claims added by amendment must be indicated as (new).
- (5) All of the claims in each amendment paper must be presented in ascending numerical order. Consecutive canceled or withdrawn claims may be aggregated into one statement (e.g. Claims 1 – 5 (canceled)).

Amendments to the specification are performed in the conventional manner (37 CFR 1.121(b)).

Patent Copies

Additionally, applicants and practitioners will no longer be required to provide copies of U.S. Patents and Published U.S. Patent Applications cited in any Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) submitted to the USPTO during the prototype and in applications assigned to the three art units. It is requested that eIDSs be used to file all IDS papers for applications before the prototype Art Units. Similarly, during the prototype, copies of U.S. Patents and Published U.S. Patent Applications cited by an examiner during prosecution of an application will not be provided to applicants in Office actions from these Art Units. These documents are available from the USPTO web site, www.uspto.gov, for free download. Cited foreign patents and published applications and non-patent literature will be mailed by conventional processing.

The above requested new format and procedures are applicable during the prototype only to applications assigned to Art Units 1634, 2827, and 2834. Any questions regarding these requirements may be directed to image_processing@uspto.gov or one of the Supervisory Patent Examiners of these Art Units 1634 – Gary Jones gary.jones@uspto.gov; 2827 – Daye Jallott daye.jallott@uspto.gov or 2834 – Nestor Ramirez Nestor.Ramirez@uspto.gov

Example:

Claims 1-5 (canceled) (Note: consecutive canceled or withdrawn claims may be aggregated)

Claim 6 (withdrawn)

Claim 7 (previously amended): A bucket with a handle.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A bucket with a ~~green~~ blue handle.

Claim 9 (withdrawn)

Claim 10 (original): A bucket with a wooden handle.

Claim 11: (new): A bucket with plastic sides and bottom.